

Planning and Project Implementation Update



October 2010

ABOUT THIS UPDATE

The purpose of the Chippewa Quarterly is to provide a summary of environmental analyses on the Chippewa National Forest. Issued quarterly, this is intended to complement other public involvement efforts initiated by the Forest Supervisor or District Rangers. Legal notices will continue to be published in the following local newspapers: Bemidji's *The Pioneer* for Forest Supervisor decisions; and Blackduck's *American*, *Cass Lake Times*, Deer River's *Western Itasca Review*, and Walker's *The Pilot-Independent* for District Ranger decisions.

Projects are classified into one of three categories:

Environmental Analyses in Progress

This category includes projects in which public input is being or is about to be solicited. It also includes those projects that are currently under study or analysis. Environmental analyses include Environmental Impact Statements (EIS), Environmental Assessments (EA), and Categorical Exclusions (CE).

Completed Decision Documents

These projects have culminated in the preparation of completed environmental analyses and decision documents since the last issue. These decision documents include Records of Decision (ROD), Decision Notices (DN), and Decision Memos (DM). Findings of No Significant Impacts will be included in this category, also.

Proposals Cancelled or On Hold

Some projects initiated and published in this Quarterly may be cancelled or deferred for various reasons. These projects may or may not be picked up for completion at a later date.

HOW YOU CAN BECOME INVOLVED

Read through the list of proposed projects. If you want to provide site-specific comments on a project, get more information, or be placed on the project mailing list, write or call the contact person listed for that project. It is only through site-specific input that we can be responsive to and incorporate your concerns into project development.

DEFINITION OF TERMS

Appeal Period - The 45-day period after publication of a decision in which an appeal can be filed.

Categorical Exclusion (CE) - A category of actions that do not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment. Neither an environmental assessment nor an environmental impact statement is required.

Comment Period - The time allowed for interested persons to provide comments to a Responsible Official on a proposed action.

Decision Memo (DM) - A concise written record of the responsible official's decision to implement an action that has been categorically excluded from documentation.

Decision Notice (DN) - A concise written record of the responsible official's decision based on an environmental assessment and a finding of no significant impact.

Environmental Assessment (EA) - A document that presents issues and concerns important to a project, alternate means of accomplishing a project, and environmental effects of each of those alternatives.

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) - This document is required for proposed actions that may have significant effects on the human environment. The contents are similar to an environmental assessment, and it includes some additional sections.

Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) - A document prepared by a federal agency presenting the reasons why an action, not otherwise excluded, will not have a significant effect on the human environment and for which an environmental impact statement will not be prepared.

NEPA - National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. The procedural guide for the decision making process for site-specific projects.

Proposed Action - A proposal made by the Forest Service to authorize, recommend, or implement an action on National Forest System lands to meet a specific purpose and need which is subject to public notice comment provisions.

Scoping - Includes internal and public involvement to determine the range of issues to be addressed. Scoping aids in the development of alternatives for a proposed action.

Significance - As used in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), requires consideration of both context and intensity.

Anticipated "Walk-in" Business

Requests from the public occasionally necessitate analyses be completed with a short turn-around. This may mean that decisions are made without prior announcement in this Update. As these projects come up for consideration however, they will continue to be announced by legal notices in newspapers. Examples of walk-in requests include special use roads and utility rights-of-way. Scoping efforts for these requests will be conducted as applicable.

Forest Policy on Distributing Documents

Draft and Final Environmental Assessments and Decision Notices/FONSI's and Draft and Final Environmental Impact Statements and Records of Decision are routinely mailed to individuals who provide comments on a project. We do not routinely distribute biological assessments or biological evaluations with the previously listed documents. If you wish to receive biological evaluations or biological assessments for NEPA projects, please contact the district and/or Supervisor's Office NEPA Coordinators.

Privacy on Comments Received

Comments received in response to solicitation as part of the NEPA process, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record on a proposed action and will be available for public inspection. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered; however, those who submit anonymous comments will not have standing to appeal the subsequent decision under 36 CFR Parts 215 or 217. Additionally, pursuant to 7 CFR 1.27(d), any person may request the agency to withhold a submission from the public record by showing how the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) permits such confidentiality. Persons requesting such confidentially should be aware that, under the FOIA, confidentiality may be granted in only very limited circumstances, such as to protect trade secrets. The Forest Service will inform the requester of the agency's decision regarding the request for confidentiality, and where the request is denied, the agency will return the submission and notify the requester that the comments may be resubmitted with or without name and address within stated number of days.



Schedule of Proposed Action (SOPA) 10/01/2010 to 12/31/2010

Chippewa National Forest

This report contains the best available information at the time of publication. Questions may be directed to the Project Contact.

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact

Projects Occurring Nationwide						
Land Management Planning Rule EIS	- Regulations, Directives, Orders	In Progress: NOI in Federal Register 12/18/2009 Est. DEIS NOA in Federal Register 12/2010	Expected:11/2011	12/2011	Larry Hayden 202-205-1559 Ihayden@fs.fed.us	
	development, re	of Agriculture proposes to promulg vision, and amendment of National da.gov/planningrule			t the process for	
		cts-level Units. STATE - All States.	COUNTY - All Counties	. Agency-wide	Rule.	
Nationwide Aerial Application of Fire Retardant on National Forest System Lands.	- Regulations, Directives, Orders	In Progress: NOI in Federal Register 08/27/2010 Est. DEIS NOA in Federal Register 01/2011	Expected:12/2011	01/2012	Glen Stein 208-869-5405 gstein@fs.fed.us	
NEW Elevino	Description: The Forest Service will prepare a programmatic environmental impact statement for the continued nationwide aerial application of fire retardant on National Forest System lands.					
	Web Link: http://www.fs.fed	d.us/fire/retardant/index.html				
	Location: UNIT - All Distric	ocation: UNIT - All Districts-level Units. STATE - All States. COUNTY - All Counties. Nationwide.				

Chippewa National Forest, Forestwide (excluding Projects occurring in more than one Forest) R9 - Eastern Region									
EAB Sanitation CE CE	- Vegetation management (other than forest products)	In Progress: Scoping Start 07/26/2010	Expected:10/2010	10/2010	Gary Swanson 218-335-8652 ghswanson@fs.fed.us				
	Description: Quick response a Chippewa Nation	and removal of ash trees with emer nal Forest.	ald ash borer (EAB). Sp	ecific to initial EA	B detections on the				
	1	a National Forest All Units. STATE nined by detection of EAB on Nation		- Beltrami, Cass,	Itasca. No specific				

10/01/2010 08:40 am MT Page 1 of 9 **Chippewa National Forest**

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact		
Chippewa National Forest, Forest	stwide (excluding Projects occu	R9 - Eastern Region					
Non-native Invasive Plants (NNIP) Management Project EA	- Vegetation management (other than forest products)	In Progress: Scoping Start 05/14/2008 Est. 215 Comment Period Legal Notice 10/2010	Expected:11/2010	05/2011	Thomas Heutte 907-228-4132 theutte@fs.fed.us		
		nagement driven multi-agency app from existing NNIP infestations in					
	Location: UNIT - Chippewa N wide.	ational Forest All Units. STATE - N	Minnesota. COUNTY	- Beltrami, Cass,	Itasca. Forest-		
Qwest Special Use Permit Renewal CE	- Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 06/03/2010	Expected:10/2010	10/2010	Catherine Thompson 218-335-8655 cjthompson@fs.fed.us		
	Description: Reissue Special Use Permit for telephone line on NFS lands with no change in existing infrastructure.						
	Location: UNIT - Chippewa National Forest All Units. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Beltrami, Cass, Itasca. No locations across the forest.						
Reservoir Operating Plan Evaluation (ROPE) Study EIS	- Recreation management - Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Watershed management	In Progress: FEIS NOA in Federal Register 10/02/2009	Expected:12/2010	06/2010	Luke Rutten 218-335-8666 Irutten@fs.fed.us		
	Description: Operation of Federa Mississippi River are	ators of non-Federal o	lams in the headw	aters of the			
		ational Forest All Units. STATE - N etween Bemidji and St. Paul.	Minnesota. COUNTY	- Beltrami, Cass,	Itasca. Upper		

Chippewa National Forest, Occurring in more than one District (excluding Forestwide) R9 - Eastern Region								
Great Lakes Gas Permit Renewal	- Special use management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 09/2010	Expected:12/2010	01/2011	Catherine Thompson 218-335-8655			
CE					cjthompson@fs.fed.us			
NEW LISTING	Description: Issuance of a new are no changes to	r special use authorization to replace the facilities.	e an expiring one. The	changes are adm	ninistrative. There			

Project Name	Project I	Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact			
Chippewa National Forest, Occurring in more than one District (excluding Forestwide) R9 - Eastern Re									
Moon Resource Management Project EA	- Forest products - Vegetation ma (other than fores - Watershed ma - Road manage	anagement st products) anagement	Completed	Actual: 09/27/2010	12/2010	Deborah Overton 218-547-1044 doverton@fs.fed.us			
	imı		ment that includes harvest and non ging system roads and other small						
	T1		ger District, Deer River Ranger Dist 41N, R25W and T143N, R27W to 1N.						
Transmission Project 230 - kV from Bemidji to Grand Rapids	- Special use ma	anagement	Completed	Actual: 09/28/2010	11/2010	Catherine Thompson 218-335-8655 cjthompson@fs.fed.us			
EIS	Description: Co	onstruction of a 23	0 kV powerline from Deer River to	Cass Lake on Nation	al Forest Lands.				
	Web Link: htt	p://www.capx2020	0.com						
	of	-	ger District, Deer River Ranger Dist idth from Deer River to Call Lake o			-			

Chippewa National Forest Blackduck Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District) R9 - Eastern Region									
Compartment 86 Stand 41, 54, 79 Riparian Planting CE	- Wildlife, Fish, Rare pla	nts Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 09/2010	Expected:10/2010	06/2011	Jeff Allison 218-835-3115 jmallison@fs.fed.us				
	Description: Planting w 2010.	scription: Planting white pine and other species in the riparian zone of a marsh, wetland. Waiting for su 2010.							
		.ocation: UNIT - Blackduck Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Beltrami. LEGAL - T147N R31W Sections 2 and 3. A marsh, wetland southwest of South Twin Lake.							

10/01/2010 08:40 am MT Page 3 of 9 **Chippewa National Forest**

Project Name	Proje	ect Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Chippewa National Forest Bla	ckduck Rang	er District (excludir	ng Projects occurring in more that	an one District)		R9 - Eastern Region
Ecological and Hydrological Impacts of Emerald Ash Borer on Black Ash		management products)	In Progress: Scoping Start 07/26/2010	Expected:10/2010	10/2010	Gary Swanson 218-335-8652 ghswanson@fs.fed.us
CE	Description:	Research project in replications of group	cooperation with Northern Reseac selection, patch clear cuts, girdling	h and University of M g in addition to the co	innesota. Treatme ntrol.	nts consist of
	Location:	UNIT - Blackduck R River road and NW	anger District. STATE - Minnesota of Round Lake.	a. COUNTY - Beltrar	ni. Several location	ns along Third
Kitchi Resource Management EA	(other than fo	management prest products) I management	Completed	Actual: 08/31/2010 08/30/2010	10/2010	Leo Johnson 218-835-3107 Ijohnson@fs.fed.us
	Description:	Kitchi area timber sa and recreation proje	ale, reforestation, timber stand implects	rovement, roads man	agement, and asso	ociated vegetation
	Location:		anger District. STATE - Minnesota 1W, T147N R29-31W, and T148N iver.			
Paul Bunyan Telephone Buried Line Movement - Itasca County CE	- Special use	e management	Cancelled	N/A	N/A	Jeff Allison 218-835-3115 jmallison@fs.fed.us
	Description:		ded to cancel this project and roll it es that may have to go outside the			
	Location:		anger District. STATE - Minnesota R26W Sections 11 and 15. Along C			R28W Sections 3
Pennington Woodcock Habitat Improvement Project CE	- Wildlife, Fis	h, Rare plants	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 11/2010	Expected:01/2011	03/2011	Cory Mlodik 218-835-3119 corymlodik@fs.fed.us
NEW LISTING	Description:		woodcock by shearing alder/aspened areas total about 45 acres.	near water and mayb	e some mowing in	existing wildlife
	Location:		anger District. STATE - Minnesota . About two miles southeast of Pen			N R30W Sections

10/01/2010 08:40 am MT Page 4 of 9 **Chippewa National Forest**

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact	
Chippewa National Forest Bl	ackduck Ranger District (excludi	ng Projects occurring in more th	an one District)		R9 - Eastern Region	
Popple River Rock Spawning Reef CE	- Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants	On Hold	N/A	N/A	Jeff Allison 218-835-3115 jmallison@fs.fed.us	
		ided to put on Hold waiting for DNR Waiting on DNR approval of the pr		eef of small rocks in	n Popple River for	
		Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota ar bridge on County Road 126 (FR		LEGAL - T149N	R27W Section 15.	
Rabideau CCC Camp Management EA *NEW LISTING*	Recreation managementSpecial use managementFacility management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 10/2010	Expected:05/2011	06/2011	Ann Long-Voelkner 218-335-8616 alongvoelkner@fs.fed.u s	
	Description: Updates to the use and management of the CCC camp, including seasons of use, maintained buildings, and non-structural land uses.					
		Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota R30W Section 18. Rabideau CCC (mi. LEGAL - T148	N R31N Sections	
Rabideau Special Use Permit for CALC	- Special use management	Cancelled	N/A	N/A	Nancy Salminen 218-835-3116 nsalminen@fs.fed.us	
OL .		ided to cancel this project and roll it			it to authorize more CC camp.	
		Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota of Rabideau CCC Camp in open fiel		mi. LEGAL - T148	N R31W Section	
Scenic Gravel Pit Expansion EA	- Minerals and Geology	On Hold	N/A	N/A	Leo Johnson 218-835-3107 ljohnson@fs.fed.us	
	Description: Expand the Scenic Gravel pit downward into the water table to get more gravel. Consider gating the access road.					
		Ranger District. STATE - Minnescon, R30W, Section 31. East of the				

10/01/2010 08:40 am MT Page 5 of 9 **Chippewa National Forest**

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact		
Chippewa National Forest E	Blackduck Ranger District (excludin	ckduck Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					
Wagner Lake Resource Management EA *NEW LISTING*	Wildlife, Fish, Rare plantsForest productsVegetation management (other than forest products)	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 11/2010	Expected:09/2011	09/2013	Leo Johnson 218-835-3107 ljohnson@fs.fed.us		
NEW EIGTING	Location: UNIT - Blackduck R	station, and various other associate Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota W; and T150N R27, 28N. Between	a. COUNTY - Itasca.				

Chippewa National Forest Dec	Chippewa National Forest								
Central Vegetation Management Project EA	 Forest products Vegetation man (other than forest Road managem 	agement products)	Completed	Actual: 07/26/2010	09/2011	Barb Knight 218-246-2362 bknight@fs.fed.us			
		nerally, the projec er District.	ct area is bounded by the Forest bo	oundary to the east ar	d south and is ce	ntral to the Deer			
	N, F	R 25-27 W; T59N	Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota IR 26-27W; T145N R26 W; T146N eer River District to the east and so	N R25-26W; T147N R2	25-26W, T148N R				
High Banks Resort building removal and replacement cabin CE	- Special use man	nagement	Completed	Actual: 07/08/2010	08/2010	Mary Humenberger 218-246-3455 mhumenberger@fs.fed. us			
	Description: Remove one building and replace with a new cabin								
		T - Deer River R ks Resort.	Ranger District. STATE - Minnesot	a. COUNTY - Itasca.	LEGAL - T146N	R27W S20. High			

10/01/2010 08:40 am MT Page 6 of 9 **Chippewa National Forest**

Project Name	Proje	ct Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact			
Chippewa National Forest De	eer River Range	er District (excludir	ng Projects occurring in more that	an one District)		R9 - Eastern Region			
Little Cut Foot Sioux Home Tract Lot#11	- Special use	management	Completed	Actual: 07/08/2010	07/2010	Mary Humenberger 218-246-3455 mhumenberger@fs.fed. us			
	Description: Removal of window/replace with sliding glass door. Remove existing cement step/replace with deck								
			Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota Sioux summer home tract.	a. COUNTY - Itasca	. LEGAL - S31 T1	47N R26W. Lot			
Little Cut Foot Sioux Home Tract Lot#13	- Special use	management	Completed	Actual: 07/08/2010	07/2010	Mary Humenberger 218-246-3455 mhumenberger@fs.fed. us			
	Description: 22¿x16¿ addition, construct full basement under cabin 40¿x22¿, build 16¿x25¿ garage								
			Ranger District. STATE - Minnesot	a. COUNTY - Itasca	. LEGAL - S31 T1	47N R26W. Lot			
Six Mile Dam CE	- Wildlife, Fisl	n, Rare plants	In Progress: Scoping Start 04/09/2010	Expected:12/2010	09/2011	Eric Raitanen 218-246-3475 ericraitanen@fs.fed.us			
	Description: Six mile dam is delapidated and not functioning and is a barrier to fish migration. This poject will replace the dam with a structure that passes fish and has low maintenance.								
		UNIT - Deer River F River Range Distric	Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota t Cass County, MN.	a. COUNTY - Cass.	LEGAL - T144N F	R27W S17. Deer			
Spruce EA EA	- Research		In Progress: Scoping Start 05/13/2010 Est. 215 Comment Period Legal Notice 10/2010	Expected:11/2010	12/2010	Randall Kolka 218-326-7115 rkolka@fs.fed.us			
			th climate change manipulation foc or elevated CO2 levels.	cusing on the combine	ed response of mul	tiple levels of			
		UNIT - Deer River F unit of the Marcell E	Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota Experimental Forest.	a. COUNTY - Itasca	. LEGAL - T158N	R25W. Southern			

10/01/2010 08:40 am MT Page 7 of 9 **Chippewa National Forest**

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact				
Chippewa National Forest	t Deer River Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District) R9 - Eastern Region								
Suomi Hills Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized Area Trail Project	- Recreation management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 06/2011	Expected:09/2011	10/2011	Michael Martin 218-246-3479 mikemartin@fs.fed.us				
EA	Description: Conversion of low standard roads to trails, new trail construction, building trail shelters, installation of gates/berms on system roads/unclassified roads, and parking areas within the Soumi Hills SPNM Area. Location: UNIT - Deer River Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Itasca. LEGAL - T 58 N, R 26 W. The project area is located west of MN Highway 38; south and east of Itasca County Road 48; and north of the forest boundary. The project is within the designated Soumi Hills SPNM Area as defined by.								

Chippewa National Forest V	Walker Ranger Distr	ict (excluding	Projects occurring in more than	one District)		R9 - Eastern Region	
Former Cass Lake Ranger District Office CE	- Facility manage	ement	In Progress: Scoping Start 11/24/2004	Expected:12/2010	12/2010	Catherine Thompson 218-335-8655 cjthompson@fs.fed.us	
OL .	Description: Sale of old district office						
	Location: UNIT - Walker Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Cass. Old administrative site in Cass Lake, MN.						
Ojibway Resort CE	- Special use ma	nagement	In Progress: Scoping Start 03/31/2010	Expected:03/2011	04/2011	Steven Frick 218-547-6002 ext 112 scfrick@fs.fed.us	
	Description: provide recreational opportunities for the general public on National Forest land						
	Location: UNIT - Walker Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Cass. LEGAL - Gov¿t. Lot 2, Section 30, Township 145 North, Range 30 West. resort is located on Chippewa National Forest land on the east shore of Pike Bay, Walker Ranger District.						
West Branch Site CE	- Facility management		On Hold	N/A	N/A	Catherine Thompson 218-335-8655 cjthompson@fs.fed.us	
	Description: Sale of surplus facility.						
	Location: UNIT - Walker Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Cass. SW 1/4 lying northerly and easterly of the centerline of Township Road 10 as it existed in 1998.						

Project Name Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
------------------------------	-----------------	----------	-------------------------	-----------------

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

This report contains the best available information at the time of publication. Questions may be directed to the Project Contact.

Chippewa National Forest 10/01/2010 08:40 am MT 9 of 9 Page